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NEWS UPDATE March 15, 2021

Top Story

EPA Approves Year-Round E15 Sales in Kansas City Metro Area

By Todd Neeley, DTN Staff Reporter • • Posted March 14, 2021

EPA will allow year-round E15 sales in the Kansas City metro area, the agency announced in a news release on Friday. The Trump administration opened up year-round sales of E15, by granting a Reid vapor pressure, or RVP, waiver. Sales were not allowed in the Kansas City metro because of higher ozone levels in the area. Now, E15 sales will be allowed year-round in four counties. That includes Johnson and Wyandotte counties in Kansas, and Jackson, Clay and Platte counties in Missouri. [read more ...]

Vehicle Fuel Efficiency Revision

CFDC Calls on New EPA Administrator To Prioritize Octane in New Fuel Economy Rule

By Doug Durante, CFDC • • Posted March 14, 2021

In a letter congratulating incoming Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Regan, CFDC called for the "Repeal & Replace" of the SAFE rule. "In addition to the overarching objective of establishing a single national program, we urge you to consider the immediate benefits that would result from an orderly transition to a national standard for cleaner burning, lower cost, and higher performance high octane gasoline." [read more ...]

Corn growers back higher ethanol blends

By Kellan Heavican. Brownfield • • Posted March 14, 2021

A group of midwestern corn growers associations is attempting to raise fuel efficiency standards by increasing the ethanol blend. Nebraska Corn introduced a resolution at the recent Corn Congress calling for 95 RON E15, a 15-percent blend of ethanol to raise octane to help auto makers create cleaner engines. Jeff Wilkerson with the Nebraska Corn Board tells Brownfield "What we're trying to do is create a scenario where we can use ethanol to decarbonize the transportation sector." He says increasing the ethanol blend now could be a stepping stone for the future, "That allows auto makers more time to develop engines. As we know, they're planning model year vehicles in advance and it allows us time to work on the infrastructure part as well." [read more ...]

Markets

U.S. Refiners' Profits at Risk From Rising Biofuel Costs

By Jeffrey Bair, Bloomberg • Posted March 14, 2021

The obligation for biofuels in one gallon of fuel, the so-called RVO or renewable volume obligation, climbed to 16.6 cents Thursday, representing about 6% of the U.S. retail gasoline price, according to data from Argus and auto club AAA. It marked the highest value since the Argus RVO data was first reported in 2013 and has risen about 6 cents since the start of January. The historical data comprises periods of changes to the federal government formula to calculate the RVO. [read more ...]

Dakota Ethanol surpasses 1 billion gallons mark

By The Daily Leader • • Posted March 14, 2021

"I'm proud of how Dakota Ethanol has been able to utilize and monetize its lower-than-average CI through plant efficiencies," said Ron Alverson, board member of Dakota Ethanol and the American Coalition for Ethanol. "There's more opportunities ahead for the plant to further reduce its CI, including proving our area growers produce corn more efficiently than the default CI the marketplace currently assigns to raising a bushel of corn. [read more ...]

Clean Fuel Standards

Broad Coalition Supports Minnesota Clean Fuels Standard

By Cindy Zimmerman, AgWired • Posted March 14, 2021

A broad coalition representing automakers, biofuel producers, farmers, electric vehicles, and conservation advocates is endorsing new legislation that would implement a clean fuels standard statewide in Minnesota, which would be the first for a Midwestern state. The American Coalition for

Ethanol (ACE) and the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) are both members of the coalition, which is facilitated by the Great Plains Institute. [read more ...]

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